

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 14:58:54 1995
Subject: 30 meters Saturday
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.13448.500@acenet.com>
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 07:29:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

30 meters was sensational yesterday!
I listened on 10.116 MHz and it was so crowded I was amaazed!
There were LOTS of QRP signals in there, so I tuned up higher
around 10.136 and heard two INET QRP qsos going on nearby.

I didn't hear any CQs, so I put out a CQ on 10.135 or so, and
gpt three replies! I worked several stations. At first we had to QSY a
little to get out from under some of the digi QRM, and it seemed
like they were deliberately following me around and bleeping
on top of me, but it soon subsided and I had 5 QSOs, including
KG0EI in *** IOWA *** (That is for Jim, N00CT since his 1 watt OXO
rig only works IOWA!)

Hope everybody had fun, and see you all again today around 1900
to 2300 UTC on 30m.

```
      .--\ /--  
      | /  \ |  
      |\\ (o)(o) |//|  
----.000o-----oo-----o000.----  
|  
|      Brian Carling  
|      Radio AF4K  
|      Gaithersburg, MD  
|  
|      brian.carling@acenet.com  
|  
|-----0ooo.-----  
|      .ooo0      ( )  
|      ( )      ) /  
|      \ (      (_/  
|      \_)  
|  
|-----
```

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ Appellate judge steps on banana: overturned on a peel!

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 16:15:52 1995
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 08:30:39 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>

Subject: 30-40

Message-Id: <01HNT4NOH600DLIPOH@tntech.edu>

Well.. took a while .. but finally finished my 30-40. I want to thank the group. .the suggestions that people posted for needed modification to the VFO circuit worked very well.. I took the average value of the capacitor to go on the bottom of the board and found what I had in the shack that came close.. very scientific approach.

I had a little problem at first with the PCB.. I got an older one.. Dave offered to replace it.. but I had already placed the IC sockets and some coils.. decided I liked the idea of NOT having the board screened.

I found with the schematic and info provided, it was fun to put together.. because of the board I was forced to really take my time.. which I liked. There were a couple of VERY minor problems with directions.. but not any worse than most of the commercial kit builders.

I found this a lot better than the NN1G both version kits... they seemed to have real personalities when it came to getting the VFOs running.

I decided to put this one in a case before I tested anything. I was very proud of myself. I finished the board about 2 weeks ago and didn't touch it again till I had some time. I then put all the lead wires on last week. Saturday I drilled holes and such for the controls and put them on a case about the size of the Norcal 40..but just a little taller.

It was a used case that I dug out of someones trash, about perfect size, but had a backalite back.. so I cut some plexiglass. now I can look in and watch all the electrons buzzing around when I use it. :) I put an on/off switch .. and had to actually ground to the board.. I have found plexiglass doesn't exactly conduct all too well.

Finally put very low amp power to it.. nothing smoked.. noise out of the headphones.. good stuff.. don't really have time to trouble shoot problems this month. The receiver worked right away and was pretty much set on the money (good tips from the group.. I left one winding off the coil and put a cap on the bottom). I believe the VFO tunes about 30 KCs .. which I believe is correct.. haven't had time to check the docs.

The receiver took about 30 seconds to tune. I liked that.

Hooked up my Oak Hills Wattmeter. tried real hard and only got a tiny weeney bit of power out. Well I have blown up a number of components and have learned a little about trouble shooting. I touched the final transistor. it was hot.. This really cut down the places to look.. in my experience this usually meant the hand wound final matching coils to the antenna.. and the QRP gods were really shining on me. Just happened to notice one of the coils had a broken wire in the middle.. must have caught it on the case when I mounted it.. I usual find these are more apt to break where they go into the board.. this was a first. Took the whole thing apart and rewound the coil. Seemed to be much happier. .think I am getting just a little under 1 watt. I can crank it up to about 1.5 watts. but seems the signal is a lot cleaner at this level. Checked on the station rig and retuned things.. the signal sounded nice and retuned the VFO to go between 10.100 and 10.129 or so.

Got on and finally heard a very weak signal calling CQ and he addes the /QRP to his call. Got him first try. He was a 339 and gave me a 559. The 30 meter band seemed real bad.. checked on main station rig.. he was in Iowa and I am in TN. so guess the rig is working.

One thing I noticed is that the rig TX and receive seems a little off.. when I tune for where I would be listening to the rec. signal and tx on that freq. it is a little off.. no adjustment in this rig to handle that.. Oh well.

The receiver seems pretty good and the TX note seems pretty good. The rig looks nice and purty in its small blue case with plexiglass back.. liked building this one.

73,72 and still counting

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 10:15:59 1995
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 95 07:23:34 EST
From: mitchell@dtc.Kodak.COM (Brad Mitchel)
Message-Id: <9503061223.AA19888@dzx57d.dtc.kodak.com>
Subject: ac5--thanks to all responding

Ok, thanks for all those who responded via e-mail.
I am no longer on the list, but wanted to bounce that one off the experts, because my friend wondered what it was worth.
Sounds like from the consensus that it isn't a real colectible

item. So, maybe I'll get it, and play aroundnd with it to see what they were doing back then. Not being worth a lot , even a cheap guy like me could afford it..73 es happy qrp.
Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 19:52:14 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 15:57:18 CST
Subject: All sorts of Things
Message-Id: <6919671F7F@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Has the latest publication of the Norcal group been sent?? I saw something in here about putting it together. I thought it was maybe two weeks ago. So far, I have seen nothing. I guess I am just anxious about seeing my first issue.

I got a WM-1 and should have it together momentarily. But chairmanship and four courses to teach here at the university do not allow too much time for kit building. The sale at Oak Hills goes on until the end of the month and the WM-1 is \$69.95 plus shipping (about \$4).

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 23:32:39 1995
Message-Id: <2070@gemlink.win.net>
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 21:25:00 GMT
Subject: Apologies to All
From: kevin_walton@gemlink.win.net

I apologize for the multiple copies of my message posted to this forum. My mailer was having "pointer" problems and was unaware. His BBS was down for several days and I was not able to detect your replies. Again, I hope this only goes out once ... the "postmaster" said he'd be monitoring the activity more closely. Thank you for your patience. Daniel, I'll be posting a note directly to you soon. 73's - Kevin/N4RMF -

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 15:28:09 1995
From: RobCap@aol.com
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 13:51:25 -0500
Message-Id: <950306135124_40877974@aol.com>
Subject: ARCI Follow-Up

Bill, N8ET wrote (and this was seconded by about four other stations):

"I have seen a number of complaints about the ARCI awards program on the List recently, and one resignation in protest. I have NOT seen anyone volunteer to help out with the backlog. Keep in mind that ALL the ARCI programs are handled by volunteers."

Correction:

Paul, AA4XX has recently volunteered to take over the ARCI awards project.

And I have volunteered to get a Saturday brigade of 10 stations together with Paul to see if we can clear up the backlog. We are not sure actually, what the backlog really is. Perhaps there is *no* backlog, and a handful of awards keep getting lost in the mail (it's possible).

The ARCI quarterly and ARCI contests are also run by volunteers, but they appear to be doing better. The question is whether ARCI wants to be a first class volunteer organization or just an O.K. volunteer organization.

I am on the board of directors of three local volunteer organizations (The NC Museum of Life and Science, The Morehead Planetarium, and The NC Entrepreneurial Development Board). I do not agree that "volunteer" organizations should be substandard.

Bill also writes:

"As many have said - this is a hobby - lets keep it all in perspective."

Reply:

It is? Then why would a team of grown men spend \$200,000 and risk their lives to activate Peter 1? Or why would anybody compete in international contests to work 4000 stations in 48 hours? Or why do 40,000 amateurs go out each June to set up emergency stations for Field Day? And who would spend \$15,000 on stacked four over four over four monobanders? And who would put up a tracking EME array backed up by a KW? And who would travel across the country to an annual hamvention in Dayton? And who would spend their time importing little kits from England? And who would spend all of their time designing a hot new radio as a club project, or spend hours a week on the Internet? And who would build 10 different types of transceiver kits--every new kit that becomes available to satisfy their "kit fix" (like me).

Some people also happen to like to file for and receive their awards. That's why DXCC is so popular. And WAZ and WAS and County Hunting and IOTA, etc.

I acknowledge that not everybody feels this way, and that they think we should keep awards in perspective, but as long as they are allowed to lose their perspective on their particular sub-interest.

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 05:03:21 1995
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 0:47:07 -0600 (CST)
From: Adrian Weiss W0RSP English Department <AWEISS@charlie.usd.edu>
Message-Id: <950306004707.561a0@charlie.usd.edu>
Subject: RE: ARCI Resignations

Bill N8ET is quite right. The QRP ARCI is NOT a business with a customer service department. It is a bunch of guys-n-gals serving the QRP cause in their spare time. I know from experience that running an awards program is time-consuming and, no matter how much one wants to prioritize the job, non-hobby real-life demands sometime put the awards business to the side. So, if you know that you qualify for an award, let the knowledge of that carry you for a while until the paper gets to you.

All for QRPP and QRPP for All!

Ade W0RSP

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 11:44:06 1995
From: K7YHA@aol.com
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 07:34:53 -0500
Message-Id: <950306073451_40601101@aol.com>
Subject: Re: ARCI Resignations

After having spent three terms as a BoD member for QRP ARCI, I can say from first hand experience that it takes a lot of time, effort and dedication to fill any of the officer/BoD slots.

All is not well with the ARCI, as many of you can tell by reading WA8MCQ's postings over the last several months. What we (the club "we") need is a President who will take over the reins of command and some BoD members who will respond to his/her leadership. Without this, the ARCI is doomed to stagger along, much as it has for the last several years.

Bill is correct. Those of you out there who keep finding fault with the ARCI need to redirect your efforts. Remember: "If you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem".

Instead of being disgruntled, volunteer your services. If YOU think you can do a better job than someone who is in an official club position then, by all

means, step forward and be recognized.

72 rich

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 10:16:11 1995
From: K7YHA@aol.com
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 07:36:46 -0500
Message-Id: <950306073454_40601111@aol.com>
Subject: Boatanchors

Can anyone tell me how to subscribe (and where to subscribe) to the Boatanchors mail list (at least I think its a mailing list) on I-Net? One of my SWL friends told me it was on "The Front Porch". Anyone got any ideas?

72 rich

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 18:15:13 1995
From: K7YHA@aol.com
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 15:25:47 -0500
Message-Id: <950306152542_40966523@aol.com>
Subject: Boatanchors

Thanks to all who responded. I'm sending out the E-mail to subscribe now.

72 rich

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 03:36:21 1995
Message-Id: <2f5a9719.pandora@pandora.lugs.po.my>
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 13:01:09 +0800
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my>
Subject: Re: foxhunting

On Sun, 5 Mar 95 16:56:14 CST, "Gordon Cougar" <gcouger@jsun.agen.okstate.edu> wrote:

> This is a very high traffic mailing list. One busy list I read went to

High Traffic is good. I get high on qrp-l traffic and suffer from withdrawal symptoms if the daily dosage is not high enough :-)

> a alt. news group. It is much more managable that way. And the mail
> list still works the same for those that cannot access news.

I figure going public isn't such a hot idea (IMHO) as one of the things that make this list so special is that sense of belonging to a "community", a group of people whom you know. Throwing it open as a news group somewhat dilutes that unique sense of belonging. Sure, I don't read every incoming (actually I do :-) but just getting them titles gives me a good feeling of the state of the list, the subjects of interest etc. Furthermore, as a news group, we tend to get less

civilized people who may abuse their anonymity. I'm no elitist but I'd be happy to see the group stay as it is. :-)

> Gordon AB5DG

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

--

```
+-----+-----+
| Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my |
| 9V1ZV      | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org |
| UUCP1.12j  | Packet: 9V1ZV @ 9V1VS.SGP.AS -- |
+-----+-----+
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 11:50:29 1995
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 09:51:09 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: from Mike Cloud
Message-Id: <01HNT81Q909UDLIP0H@tntech.edu>

> >>One of my favorite black boxes, is a SCAF filter from MSC, it has
> >>selectable
> >>filter widths from 100 hz to 1100 hz on cw and from 100 hz to 2800 hz on
> >>SSB,
> >>with two knobs you can set the passband and move the passband with
> >>respects
> >>to the carrier freq. its fast to learn and use, and it works great. Too
> >>bad,
> >>it needs 12 volts AC or it would be great for portable use.
> >>It costs 175.00 dollars but since its an external audio filter, you can
> >>use
> >>it on any and all rigs forever.. 72, Byron WA8LCZ
> >Since this is my first posting to the entire list, I will keep it short.
> >I also have the MSC filter, and find it to be all that Byron says. I
> >got it initially to use as an AMTOR filter and before fast DSP filters
> >were available. I still use it for SSB and what little digi modes I
> >run. Can really make a difference sometimes. Anyway, I was an earlier
> >purchaser of the RS DSP filter. Having grown up on Gordon West CW
> >tapes, I have a problem hearing CW that isn't 700-750 hz, hi hi. For
> >the past 2 weeks I have been using the little RS DSP with my MFJ 9040
> >and OHR Sprint 30m rig. The DSP has a built in speaker and amp (could
> >be louder, but OK) and runs on 12v dc. I keep meaning to dig out the
> >>manual and check current draw (would not be surprised if the draw is
> >greater than the OHR). The RS DSP works very well and can really assist
> >in helping a weak, buried signal. My thoughts.....72/73 CUL de
> >Mike, KR4IT BTW: worked N9DD in South Bend, Indiana from Memphis this
> >past Saturday at 50 milliwatts on 30 meters.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 03:22:37 1995
Message-Id: <199503060456.UAA10514@mail3.netcom.com>
Subject: Front Panel Labeling
Date: Sun, 5 Mar 95 20:59:45 PST
From: Eric Swartz WA6HHQ <erics@cruzio.com>

I have recently found an excellent laser printable clear adhesive film that I use for front panel labeling. The film is matte finished and produces excellent labels. I have designed a complete front panel overlay for my NorCal40 using a CAD program on my pc and printed it to this film with my laser printer. The results were GREAT!

This film is designed to withstand the high heat used in laser printers. (It can also be used on regular copiers.) The mfg' also makes a lower temp., copier only version.

The product is:

'repro film'
(matte self-adhesive film for laser printers)
TYPE 320
Rayven, Inc.
431 Griggs St., North
St. Paul, MN 55104

I was able to order this through my local office supply store.

Good Luck! 72, Eric WA6HHQ erics@cruzio.com

--

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 19:39:17 1995
Message-Id: <v01510107ab81128043eb@[149.82.22.63]>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 11:37:40 -0800
From: xenolith@halcyon.com (Kevin Purcell)
Subject: Re: Headphones, cornpones and ear bones

>I would definitely stay parsecs clear of "high-fidelity"
>headphones. They're not "tuned" right for CW or SSB.
>They're tuned for Santana at about 120 watts in each
>ear. And since that's definitely not QRP, you don't
>need 'em. You need..... (Tell him what he wins, Don
>Pardo!).... COMMUNICATION HEADPHONES! (and a trip to
>Vegas... No, a trip to Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Yeah,
>that's the ticket.)

As some recent measurements in "72" showed (even though the author of the piece didn't realise it) is that for a given POWER input modern good quality phones or ear-buds (made by a named brand) are as sensitive as older hi Z phones. The difference is that being lower impedance they need a higher current drive so you can either use a 2k to 8 ohm audio transformer (and get the same result as hi Z phones) or you can add a little more voltage application to your RX (an extra op-amp) that can drive the low Z phones. Of course the low Z phones have NEED MORE FILTERING TO BECOME MORE COMMUNICATIONS LIKE.

SORRY ABOUT THE ALL CAPS AT THE END. I HAVE AN INIT ON THIS MAC WHICH RENDERS THE CAPS LOCK INEFFECTIVE. OCASSIONALLY IT FAILS AND YOU CAN ONLY GET ALL CAPS I HATE THOSE TYPE OF BUGS.

Kevin Purcell, N7WIM // work: kevinpu@atm.com // home: xenolith@halcyon.com
Join Seattle's dBug Mac Developers SIG | "The best way to get information on
and meet other Mac programmers! | UseNet isn't to ask a question
Should we start a Scripters SIG? | but to post the wrong information"

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 21:37:24 1995
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 12:11:26 -0500
Message-Id: <199503061711.AA02277@yfn2.ysu.edu>
From: ah301@yfn.ysu.edu (Jerry Sy)
Subject: how much for an Argonaut 515 ?

I am planning on buying another qrp rig that will cover more than one band and do ssb as well.

I was wondering what is the price for a used Argonaut 515.
If you own a 515, please let me know how much you paid for it and what you think of the rig .

also, how does it compare to the QRP+ and has been widely acclaimed here and 30+ people here ordered.

how about other qrp rig that you use and like very much that you want to recommend.

73 de jerry
n3rkd

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 18:32:46 1995
Message-Id: <06MAR95.17626061.0048.MUSIC@MARISTB.MARIST.EDU>
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 95 16:19:13 EST
From: "Bowes, Fr. Bruce" <GBB1@MARISTB.MARIST.EDU>
Subject: HW -8 For Sale

Is someone trying to sell a incomplete kit?
Fr Bowes

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 23:11:06 1995
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 16:18:25 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: Index Labs confirmation
Message-Id: <01HNTLIK1GFMDLIP0H@tntech.edu>

All those who ordered QRP+ thru this list:

I received my confirmation and manual (or so my 11 year old just told me on the phone). This means if you don't receive yours by a week or so from now, time for you to call INDEX (not me) and see what the story is. I think this is a very good sign. Well at least for me. :)

73,72

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 22:03:38 1995
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 21:22:32 GMT
From: Stephen John Farthing <Stephen@stevef.demon.co.uk>
Message-Id: <6022@stevef.demon.co.uk>
Subject: NC40A Has mine been dispatched yet?

Can someone tell me if my NORCAL 40A has been posted to me yet. I'm getting worried that it has sunk without trace in the Atlantic. Also, what are the DX subscription rates to QRPP. Many thanks.

--

Steve Farthing | stephen@stevef.demon.co.uk |
Melksham
Wiltshire UK

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 19:02:48 1995
Message-Id: <199503062157.NAA02495@interval.interval.com>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 13:58:58 -0800
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: NC40A notes -- correction

"R5 and R6" in item 3 of my note should have read "D5 and D6." Thanks,
Larry (W1HUE/7).

Wayne

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 15:13:07 1995
Message-Id: <199503061852.KAA18753@interval.interval.com>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 10:54:11 -0800
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: NorCal 40A Build Results

To NorCal 40A builders [Doug--add to next QRPP please]:

Looks like nearly all of the little critters are coming right up. I've seen a few of them and everyone's doing an excellent job on assembly and alignment. The solder mask on the board seems to be preventing shorts, as I'd hoped.

There are a couple of minor things I've noticed that may be of interest:

1. I've found a couple of units where the AF gain trimmer (R8) had been turned all the way up, and the operator was using the RF gain control to set the AF level. This isn't the best way to use these controls. In fact, this could lead to the sidetone seeming to be way too loud. The right way to set them is: turn the RF gain control all the way up, then turn the AF gain trimmer up just enough to get to a comfortable listening level. Only turn the RF gain down when you're experiencing mixer de-sensing from large signals--let the AGC handle large signals at other times.
2. In one case, the transmit mixer filter cap (C39) was in the "minimum" position, rather than somewhere in the middle. If you end up with C39 at min or max, you'll have to adjust the turns on L6 by spreading or squeezing them and then repeak C39. In this particular case I was able to simply spread the turns on L6 farther apart to get C39 back into its mid-range. I'm going to change the parts list to reduce the number of turns on L6 by one.
3. I found on one unit that the AGC threshold trimmer, R6, ended up all the way counter-clockwise. I'd rather see it end up somewhere in the middle, so I may have to modify the circuit a bit. A quick fix would be to replace R5 and R6 with 1N5817 or 1N34A diodes (or equivalent) to reduce the voltage drop lost across these diodes.

Please send me e-mail answering this quick survey question: Where is your

AGC threshold trimmer set? You can express this as "90% CCW," "pointing at Q2," or whatever. This will help me gauge whether this is a serious problem or not.

73,
Wayne, N6KR

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 02:38:29 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Date: Sun, 5 Mar 1995 22:39:13 -0500
Message-Id: <950305223545_40366228@aol.com>
Subject: Re: Operating Skill?

OPERATING SKILLS:

1. listen to existing QSO's, pick someone to call (sta a), put your vfo exactly on the other guys freq (sta b), now sta a will hear you when sta b signs off and you can hear him, because you're exactly in his receiver bandpass. Most cw ops use narrow filters (500 hz)
2. If you want to work DX, pick a low angle of radiation antenna, like a vertical mounting in the clear or a dipole installed at the proper height above ground, for the freq you intend to transmit on. If you want to work a local contest, and DX isn't coming in, pick a high or medium angle antenna to improve your chances of making a lot of mostly local contacts.
3. listen a lot, get to know how propagation works, pick the right frequencies for the stations you want to contact. (your chances of working Russia are much better on 14 or 21 mhz in the middle of the day than 3.5 or 7 mhz.
4. monitor the DX packet cluster (on two meters) to see what frequencies are active with DX. if 21 and 28 mhz are active, don't waste time calling CQ on 7 mhz if you're looking for DX.
5. The Rules don't always work the way they should. don't be afraid to experiment if conditions aren't working the way you think they should. sometimes solar flares or local weather conditions can change reception to your area of the country. There are times when calling CQ is the only way to check out conditions. When TV or two meter reception is unusually good or bad, check the HF ham bands to see how it affects the DX. Listen right after a thunderstorm, after the lightning stops. I've heard Australia and Easter Island very loud, they couldn't hear me. strange conditions. If everyone's listening and no one calls CQ, not many QSO's will occur.

6. Put up the best antenna you can afford, buy the best receiver you can find, learn how to use both. dont relie on antenna tuners, they wont improve your antenna. get your code speed up to the average speed most ops are using (15 to 20 wpm minimum), calling CQ DX at 8 wpm will get very few replys.
7. if conditions are poor, dont ragchew, send rst, name, qth and turn it over. listening to other ops with poor proceedures wont help you. be brief, there are probably a hundred others that want to work the DX too.
8. dont practice your code on the air, dont learn how to use a new key on the air, dont tune up for minutes on the air, be considerate of others and they might do the same. If you tune up with a series of dits for minutes at a time, others will soon follow.
9. "Always" listen on a freq before you tune or call CQ.
10. At field day, check out the cw ops, some of them are terrific operators, you could learn alot in one weekend.
11. If the band is opening, signals will get stronger, so answering a weak signal is ok. if the band is closing, you should probably avoid weak signals unless its a needed state or country or me ! hi
12. QRP Contesting is a great way to improve your skills, code speed, fine tune antennas, rigs, filters, keyers, keys logging methods. Learning to use I.F. filters, audio filters, IF shift or passband features on your transceiver, finding ways to change bands and antennas quickly without a tuning proceedure. So you can spend more time operating and less time fiddling with knobs.
Its also a lot of fun.
13. Get a copy of The Complete DX'er by Bob Locher W9KNI, its a great read and has dozens of great ideas to improve your chances of making lots of contacts and finding DX.

I'm sure there are more items for our Skills List....

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 23:10:46 1995
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 16:22:50 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: Plus order correction
Message-Id: <01HNTLMY0TT4DLIPOH@tntech.edu>

OK, I was mis-informed. I did not recieve a confirmation of any type .. just the manual.. think that means the order is confirmed

:)

73

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 18:35:43 1995
Message-Id: <199503062108.AA16947@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 14:08:10 -0700
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: QRP Parts Survey

To all,
Have received several emails requesting I post the data sheets on certain IC's and transistors. I hope to issue the data sheets on most major components used in the QRP rigs and kits. These requests did not include what rig the questioned parts are used in.

Since I'm kinda ignorant what's under the hood in other people's QRP rigs, I was wondering if some of you could be so kind to summarize what rig you have (prebuilt or kit) and list the major parts. Most of these rigs are pretty universal in concept ... IC's for the RX mixer, IF amp, audio amp and TX mix. Then a few transistors for drivers and the PA. You might include what FETs are used so I can include those.

I will be glad to post a summary of the different rigs and what ICs they use for each function, the PA transistor of choice, etc. Might be kinda interesting in itself. Then ensure I post data sheets on everybody's goodies. So whats in your NorCal, SW-40, Sierra, etc. By the way, if you're using a cranked down commercial rig, I don't think its neccessary to send me a list of those parts!!! Send info via QRP-L or to me directly as you prefer.

Thanks es 72 Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 18:59:56 1995
From: FOXG@WCSUB.CTSTATEU.EDU
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 13:32:46 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <950306133246.2a019037@WCSUB.CTSTATEU.EDU>
Subject: QRPP

OK, I've asked for us all. QRPP was mailed about 2 weeks ago by Doug, KI6DS. It will take some time to work its way across the country but some have already received their copies.

73, Geoff WA1U

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 16:18:54 1995

Message-Id: <01DC5A2F0188CFD1@mhsgate.meth-mem.org>

Date: Mon, 6 Mar 95 09:55:13 -0600

From: Mike Cloud <cloudm@mhsgate.meth-mem.org>

Subject: RE: Returned Mail

>>>One of my favorite black boxes, is a SCAF filter from MSC, it has
>>>selectable
>>>filter widths from 100 hz to 1100 hz on cw and from 100 hz to 2800 hz on
>>>SSB,
>>>with two knobs you can set the passband and move the passband with
>>>respects
>>>to the carrier freq. its fast to learn and use, and it works great. Too
>>>bad,
>>>it needs 12 volts AC or it would be great for portable use.
>>>It costs 175.00 dollars but since its an external audio filter, you can
>>>use

>>>it on any and all rigs forever.. 72, Byron WA8LCZ

Since this is my first posting to the entire list, I will keep it short.
I also have the MSC filter, and find it to be all that Byron says. I
got it initially to use as an AMTOR filter and before fast DSP filters
were available. I still use it for SSB and what little digi modes I
run. Can really make a difference sometimes. Anyway, I was an earlier
purchaser of the RS DSP filter. Having grown up on Gordon West CW
tapes, I have a problem hearing CW that isn't 700-750 hz, hi hi. For
the past 2 weeks I have been using the little RS DSP with my MFJ 9040
and OHR Sprint 30m rig. The DSP has a built in speaker and amp (could
be louder, but OK) and runs on 12v dc. I keep meaning to dig out the
manual and check current draw (would not be surprised if the draw is
greater than the OHR). The RS DSP works very well and can really assist
in helping a weak, buried signal. My thoughts.....72/73 CUL de
Mike, KR4IT BTW: worked N9DD in South Bend, Indiana from Memphis this
past Saturday at 50 milliwatts on 30 meters.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 18:04:02 1995

From: PDouglas12@aol.com

Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 16:04:26 -0500

Message-Id: <950306160425_41003722@aol.com>

Subject: Round Robin Review (long)

I thought the list would like a somewhat condensed (it's long enough
already) version of my three kit round robin review/comparison.

Non-builders, sorry for the noise, but I have been getting several info
requests on these. The kits
are:

QRP30 by RadioKit PO Box 973, Pelham, NH 03076

NW80/20 for 40m by Dan's Small Parts and Kits 1935 So. 3rd West #1, Missoula,
Mt. 59801

Explorer for 20m by Oak Hills Research 20879 Madison St., Big Rapids, MI 49307

I have now finished all three, and they are on the air. Here's what I liked and didn't. But first let me say all of the rigs have superhet receivers with four pole crystal filters, narrow CW filters (some not switchable), RIT, automatic T/R switching, and are CW only. They are available on the band of your choice, generally. All of the rigs are variations of Rick Littlefield's original NE602 transceiver, described in the late 1980's in Ham Radio.

The Radiokit QRP30 is arguably the best transceiver in the group. It has a clean superhet with a good switchable audio filter; it puts out a solid 5 watts, and it will push a small speaker very well. It comes with a tiny 3x4x1.5 silk screened and drilled case which makes for a very good looking, palm sized radio. I like OPERATING this radio very much. It is the original Littlefield QRP design, except the extra four pole crystal filter has been left off (not needed for this kind of rig anyway), and it has the semi-QSK relay Littlefield used. I am enough of a CW op to dislike relay semi-QSK. As a matter of fact, "semi-QSK" is an oxymoron. It isn't QSK unless you can hear the receiver between dits, period. Anyway, that's the only real operating fault. This is the radio for a backbacker/traveller as it is a complete station in a tiny box.

Now for the bad part. The instructions are just plain terrible. They are contradictory, disorderly, confusing, and they are not commercial quality. Add that to the incredibly small size of the radio (an advantage, once built), and the consequent crowding on the single circuit board, and you have a nightmare. Building this kit would be a nightmare for even a ham with intermediate skills. Oh, yes, and the circuit board isn't silk screened and the parts overlays are not to scale. You have to make your own overlays and/or study the schematic as you install each resistor! Worse yet, Radiokith as no bench service. So, if it doesn't work, and you don't know one of those ham gurus who can fix anything, you bought yourself a three pound paperweight. So, if you can't fix and troubleshoot in the extra class, you have to pass this kit up. Too bad, though, because a little mod for full QSK and this would be THE radio. I love mine, and I wish my others were anywhere near this small. And I hardly notice that bloody relay, honest. If you are an Extra (and I don't mean just license class) homebrewer from way back, this kit is an amazing buy at \$99.95, including postage even. But if you are not very skilled (and I mean VERY) you can't have one!

The NW80/20 is the best all around rig in the group. It isn't quite as small as the QRP30, but it is still very packable. It's a little on the heavy side, but it is a good implementation of the Littlefield design with high speed solid state QSK added on. It puts out 5watts and more (adjustable), is very stable, and will put out ear splitting speaker volume. The only thing missing is AGC, which I do not miss, and you probably won't either. The construction is smooth and the manual is superb. I really

enjoyed the building because the instructions include testing of each subcircuit as you go, so you really know it is safe to move on to the next module. Everything fits on one board, except the audio filter, which is built on a tiny board that fits a post above the main board. This rig should work when you finish. If it doesn't, Dan's will fix it for you for a modest bench fee. And that is really important to me, as I hate the risk of my hard-earned money plus the hours building, only to have a dead rig--don't you?

The cabinet is not drilled or silk screened, so you will have to do your own metal wrestling, but it will be for a rig you already know works. That's a pretty good motivator. I have this rig on 40m and I trust it enough to leave my Yaesu off on this band, permanently. Negatives? None. This is my clear winner in the class. Price is \$99.95 plus shipping. Do not buy the stripped version (\$70), as too many options are missing, and the savings would not be worthwhile.

Now for the Explorer. This is a marvelous kit for the beginner, and I enjoyed building it up in a single weekend ("Get away from me, kids, I'm busy"). The result is a fine, solid QRP rig. The QSK is perfect, and this radio has a permanent, nonswitchable narrow CW filter in line. It has a good non-thumping AGC. Shortcomings are few. The cabinet is a little TOO big. It measures a substantial 6x6x3. I do like a full five watts for casual QRP work, and this rig gives only about 1.5 to 2. I also like to listen to the speaker of a radio, unless I am hunkering down to serious work, and this radio won't push a speaker. I have an outboard amplified speaker, but that isn't very portable. Minor gripes aside, this radio comes in a big beautiful pre-drilled silk screened cabinet, and even the coils are pre-wound. For a beginner, or a ham who just hates coil winding, this is the rig to buy. Oak Hills Research has done a fine job on this kit, and it is the right choice for many kit builders who want to "put together" a QRP rig. This is the other rig that comes with a bench service (available, again, at a modest extra fee), so you don't have to worry much about failing. On this kit, though, you probably won't need it.

Preston WJ2V Sorry this is copyright C 1995 Preston Douglas

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 14:20:39 1995
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 09:15:00 -0500
From: "david (d.) burniston" <davidgb@bnr.ca>
Message-Id: <"28982 Mon Mar 6 09:17:03 1995"@bnr.ca>
Subject: SW 30-40 SUCCESS & Antenna Question

Had my first QSO with my Small Wonders 30-40 kit on Saturday! I love it when things work the way they are supposed to. Now to add the RIT to complete the rig.

I have a Hustler mobile antenna with band coils for all non-WARC bands and was wondering how these compare to the Hamstick antennas. The Hamsticks cost about \$25 Canadian. Are they worth the money? I'm looking

for something for portable use where putting up antennas isn't feasible.

Thanks...

Dave

VE3LFO *** All opinions strictly my own ****

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 22:59:08 1995

Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 18:28:47 -0500 (EST)

From: James Lyons <jlyons@CAM.ORG>

Subject: Re: SW 30-40 SUCCESS & Antenna Question

Message-Id: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950306182501.26741B-100000@ocean>

Dave,

My only experience with my 40 metre Hamstick so far was on Christmas day (remember the wx?) when I drove down to Coopers Marsh (near Lancaster) and tried out the MFJ 9040 and the 40 metre Hamstick. I got a reply from Michigan on my first CQ. Didn't have time for a second QSO as the family had other plans!

I had to add a capacitor across the bottom of the antenna to get a really low SWR.

Also the place I contacted in the States wouldn't send me one so I had to get it from BC. The quality of construction is very good.

73, Jim, VE2KN

On Mon, 6 Mar 1995, david (d.) burniston wrote:

> Had my first QSO with my Small Wonders 30-40 kit on Saturday! I love it
> when things work the way they are supposed to. Now to add the RIT to
> complete the rig.
>
> I have a Hustler mobile antenna with band coils for all non-WARC bands
> and was wondering how these compare to the Hamstick antennas. The
> Hamsticks cost about \$25 Canadian. Are they worth the money? I'm looking
> for something for portable use where putting up antennas isn't feasible.
>
> Thanks...
>
> Dave
> VE3LFO *** All opinions strictly my own ****
>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 11:43:43 1995

Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 07:59:49 -0500 (EST)
From: CEBIK@utkvx.utk.edu
Subject: the qrp-l list
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503060702.A547400904-0100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

John (GM0JOL),

I regret that via the qrp-l list you received such a discourteous response to your expression of very real problems faced in all of Europe concerning e-mail. As a member of the list, let me apologize for the manner in which the facts about the use of lists in the US were given to you.

The widespread network of modem-based services in this country creates a situation that the present state of development in UK and most of Europe cannot replicate. Inexpensive local connections are available to many, if not most, US citizens, and this fact accounts for the very informal, almost hyperactive use of e-mail as a vehicle for combining both technical and personal relations. I do not believe that there is any practical manner of altering this situation, and many would rightly argue that from the US perspective, one should not want to change the situation. Amateur radio is a combination of technical knowledge, operating skill, and personal contact.

Since I cannot advance the state of development of e-mail connection in the UK or Europe, I can only hope for the day when those advances will make it easy to participate in a list such as qrp-l. We shall know it has arrived when keeping and ignoring messages, whatever their content, is merely a matter of hitting the DEL key, and volume of mail creates no extra costs to the participant. Until then, I shall miss your participation in the net, whether active, passive, or somewhere between. Perhaps one day we can rectify that with a qrp qso.

Until then, my very best wishes,
L. B. Cebik, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 14:40:03 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov
Message-Id: <9503061815.AA08362@garnet.inel.gov>
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 11:17:06 -0700
Subject: Re: the qrp-l list

>John (GM0JOL),
>

>I regret that via the qrp-l list you received such a discourteous
>response to your expression of very real problems faced in all of Europe
>concerning e-mail. As a member of the list, let me apologize for the
>manner in which the facts about the use of lists in the US were given to you.

>
>etc...
>

Well stated... I'm glad not everyone (else) on the list is an "Ugly American"!

72/73, Larry W1HUE/7 (ex OE1ZES)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 19:14:26 1995
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 17:40:59 -0500 (EST)
From: John Rouse / Capital Gazette <jrouse@dc.infi.net>
Subject: Re: the qrp-l list
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503061747.A3530-01000000@larry>

Let me add another hurrah for that response! As a regular visitor to the UK, I know how expensive Internet connections are, and I can see why the flow of marginal material in this list would cause some consternation.

73, John KA3DBN, ex-GM5DUD

Mon, 6 Mar 1995 LVE1@inel.gov wrote:

> >John (GM0JOL),
> >
> >I regret that via the qrp-l list you received such a discourteous
> >response to your expression of very real problems faced in all of Europe
> >concerning e-mail. As a member of the list, let me apologize for the
> >manner in which the facts about the use of lists in the US were given to you.
> >
> >etc...
> >
>
> Well stated... I'm glad not everyone (else) on the list is an "Ugly American"!
>
> 72/73, Larry W1HUE/7 (ex OE1ZES)
>
>

John L. Rouse
Capital-Gazette Communications
jrouse@dc.infi.net
jrouse@ix.netcom.com

Packet: ka3dbn@ka3rfe.md.usa.noa
FAX: 301-464-7027
Phone: 301-262-3700
410-268-5000

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Mar 6 02:27:00 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.VF.MMC.COM
Date: Sun, 5 Mar 1995 22:55:58 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <950305225558.22e14005@carib.vf.mmc.com>
Subject: Re: Thoughts on ARCI...

Gang,

ARCI/QRP-L merger? I think not!

First of all as Mike C. pointed out, The two groups have vastly different purposes. ARCI is a (more-or-less) structured group with leaders to give it direction. Like a building, it has substance and longevity and some degree of stability. QRP-L, on the other hand is anarchy incarnate. Not that that is necessarily bad, just different. It has no leader (sorry Chuck) and you can see by the threads, it kind of goes with the wind (thank heavens we didn't succumb to "Is Maxwell Wrong" as did rec.radio.amateur.antennas, or I'd have to eat my words). It has no enduring structure other than the spirit of those who choose to remain subscribed. And there is a constant coming and going. It's like a party conversation that is interesting to participate in, but is transitory. In fact it IS primarily an on-going, ever-changing conversation.

QRP ARCI also has a written newsletter that adds permanence and value. Pieces written for QRP-L are off-the-cuff unpolished gems. I suspect that, due to its sheer volume, very little of it is saved by individuals, although kind souls have archived it. Material written for QRP Quarterly is written carefully and refined by the authors, then edited by the ARCI staff resulting in something worth saving and enjoying at a later date.

At the risk of sounding chauvinistic, I venture to say that QRP-L is like a lover who gives short-term pleasure, while QRP ARCI is more like a spouse that you enjoy living with and establishing a meaningful long-term relationship. (Tongue planted firmly in cheek :-)

Enough! Now that my eyes have recovered, I gotta get back to my NORCAL 40A kit. Maybe I can get it built tonight and check it out tomorrow. On the other hand, do I really need to sleep tonight!

72/73,

Joe E. N2CX